

CLAIMS

- 1 1. A method for processing animal waste comprising the steps of:
2 (A) heating the animal waste to at least a predetermined temperature; and
3 (B) compressing the animal waste.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein steps (A) and (B) are performed simultaneously
2 by an extrusion process.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the predetermined temperature is sufficient to kill
2 bacteria and insects in the animal waste.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein the predetermined temperature is 132 °C.
- 1 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the predetermined temperature is 145 °C.
- 1 6. The method of claim 1 wherein the predetermined temperature is 160 °C.
- 1 7. The method of claim 1 wherein steps (A) and (B) are performed simultaneously
2 by a screw-type extruder.
- 1 8. The method of claim 1 wherein the animal waste comprises poultry waste.
- 1 9. The method of claim 1 wherein the animal waste comprises a litter material that
2 contains excrement.
- 1 10. The method of claim 9 wherein the litter material comprises organic material.

- 1 11. The method of claim 9 wherein the litter material comprises inorganic material.
- 1 12. The method of claim 9 wherein the litter material comprises processed material.
- 1 13. The method of claim 9 wherein the litter material comprises synthetic material.
- 1 14. A method for a poultry farm to do business comprising the steps of:
2 (A) placing clean litter on the floor of a poultry house;
3 (B) raising a first plurality of birds in the poultry house, during which the birds
4 defecate on the litter, thereby soiling the litter;
5 (C) removing the first plurality of birds from the poultry house;
6 (D) removing the soiled litter from the poultry house;
7 (E) processing the soiled litter by heating the soiled litter to at least a
8 predetermined temperature;
9 (F) placing the processed litter on the floor of at least one poultry house; and
10 (G) raising at least a second plurality of birds in the at least one poultry house.
- 1 15. The method of doing business of claim 14 wherein the step of processing the
2 soiled litter further comprises the step of compressing the soiled litter.
- 1 16. The method of doing business of claim 15 wherein step (E) comprises the step of
2 running the soiled litter through a screw-type extruder.
- 1 17. The method of doing business of claim 14 wherein the predetermined temperature
2 is sufficient to kill bacteria and insects in the animal waste.

1 18. The method of doing business of claim 14 wherein the predetermined temperature
2 is 132 °C.

1 19. The method of doing business of claim 14 wherein the predetermined temperature
2 is 145 °C.

1 20. The method of doing business of claim 14 wherein the predetermined temperature
2 is 160 °C.

1 21. A method for a poultry farm to do business comprising the steps of:
2 (A) placing processed litter in the bottom of a poultry house, wherein the
3 processed litter comprises soiled litter that contains excrement and that is processed by
4 heating the soiled litter to at least a predetermined temperature; and
5 (B) raising a first plurality of birds in the poultry house, during which the first
6 plurality of birds defecate on the processed litter.

1 22. A method for a poultry farm to do business comprising the steps of:
2 (A) placing litter in the bottom of a poultry house;
3 (B) raising a first plurality of birds in the poultry house, during which the first
4 plurality of birds defecate on the litter;
5 (C) removing the first plurality of birds from the poultry house;
6 (D) removing the soiled litter from the poultry house;
7 (E) processing the soiled litter by heating the soiled litter to at least a
8 predetermined temperature; and
9 (F) selling at least a portion of the processed litter.

1 23. The method for doing business of claim 22 wherein the step of processing the
2 soiled litter further comprises the step of compressing the soiled litter.

1 24. The method for doing business of claim 23 wherein the steps of heating and
2 compressing the soiled litter are performed simultaneously by a screw-type extruder.

1 25. The method for doing business of claim 22 wherein the predetermined
2 temperature is sufficient to kill bacteria and insects in the animal waste.

1 26. The method for doing business of claim 22 wherein the predetermined
2 temperature is 132 °C.

1 27. The method for doing business of claim 22 wherein the predetermined
2 temperature is 145 °C.

1 28. The method for doing business of claim 22 wherein the predetermined
2 temperature is 160 °C.

1 29. A method for doing business comprising the steps of:
2 (A) transporting an apparatus that processes soiled litter to a poultry farm; and
3 (B) processing on the poultry farm soiled litter that contains excrement using the
4 apparatus.

1 30. The method for doing business of claim 29 wherein the step of processing the
2 soiled litter comprises the steps of heating the soiled litter to at least a predetermined
3 temperature.

1 31. The method for doing business of claim 30 wherein the step of processing the
2 soiled litter further comprises the step of compressing the soiled litter.

1 32. The method for doing business of claim 31 wherein the apparatus comprises a
2 screw-type extruder that performs the steps of heating and compressing simultaneously.

1 33. The method for doing business of claim 30 wherein the predetermined
2 temperature is sufficient to kill bacteria and insects in the animal waste.

1 34. The method for doing business of claim 30 wherein the predetermined
2 temperature is 132 °C.

1 35. The method for doing business of claim 30 wherein the predetermined
2 temperature is 145 °C.

1 36. The method for doing business of claim 30 wherein the predetermined
2 temperature is 160 °C.

1 37. A method for doing business comprising the steps of:
2 (A) transporting soiled litter that contains excrement to an apparatus that
3 processes soiled litter; and
4 (B) processing the soiled litter using the apparatus.

1 38. The method for doing business of claim 37 wherein the step of processing the
2 soiled litter comprises the steps of heating the soiled litter to at least a predetermined
3 temperature.

1 39. The method for doing business of claim 38 wherein the step of processing the
2 soiled litter further comprises the step of compressing the soiled litter.

1 40. The method for doing business of claim 39 wherein the apparatus comprises a
2 screw-type extruder that performs the steps of heating and compressing simultaneously.

1 41. The method for doing business of claim 38 wherein the predetermined
2 temperature is sufficient to kill bacteria and insects in the animal waste.

1 42. The method for doing business of claim 38 wherein the predetermined
2 temperature is 132 °C.

1 43. The method for doing business of claim 38 wherein the predetermined
2 temperature is 145 °C.

1 44. The method for doing business of claim 38 wherein the predetermined
2 temperature is 160 °C.
